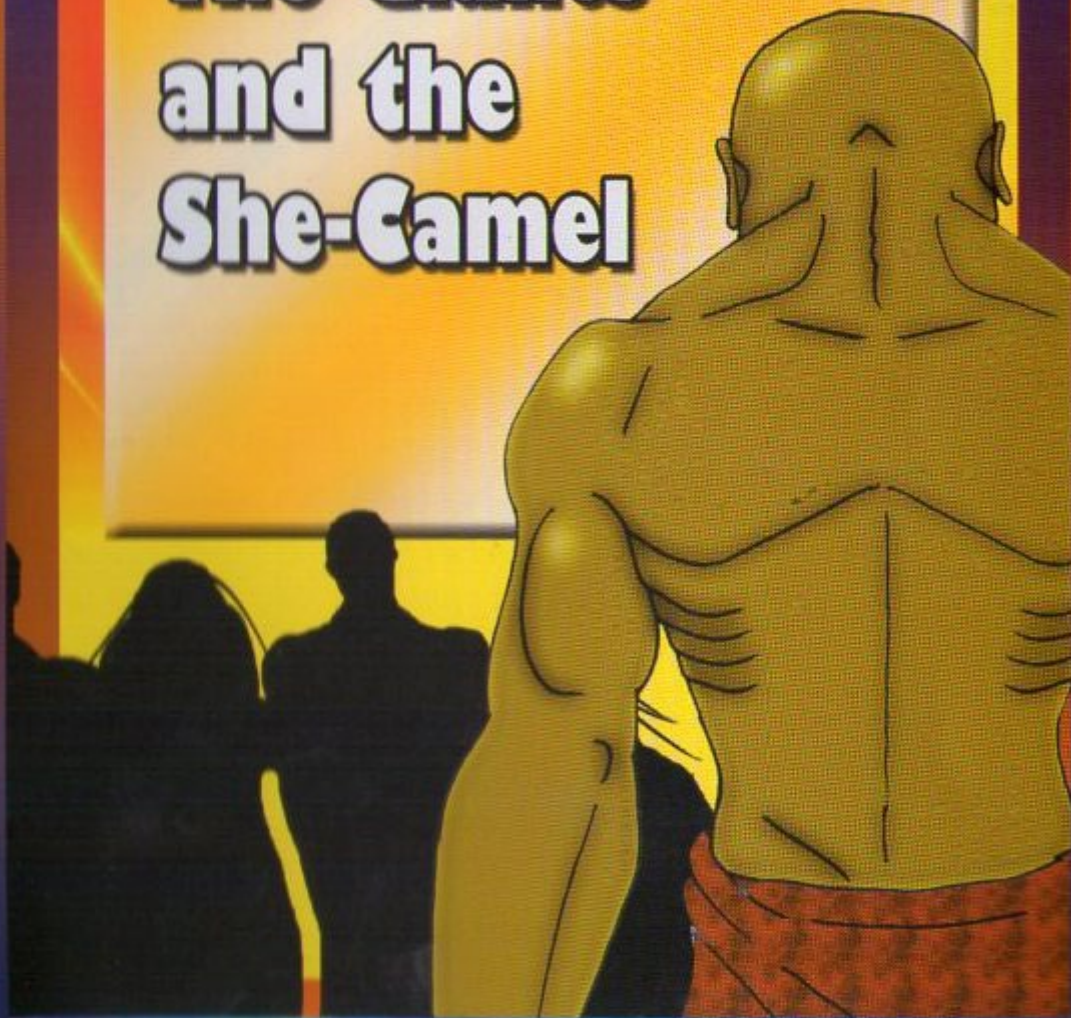


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The Giants and the She-Camel



Fantastic children stories
for teaching Islamic and moral values.

Written by: Maulana Ahmed Ali - Illustrations by: Shiraz Zaman

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Credits & Acknowledgments

This work or any other work of Al Ma'hadul Islami is the result of the effort of many Muslims. I would like to thank all those who helped to make this work possible, especially those who are directly involved at the institute, not forgetting my teachers and my Shaykh Hadrat Maulana Yusuf Sahib for their guidance, help and Du'as.

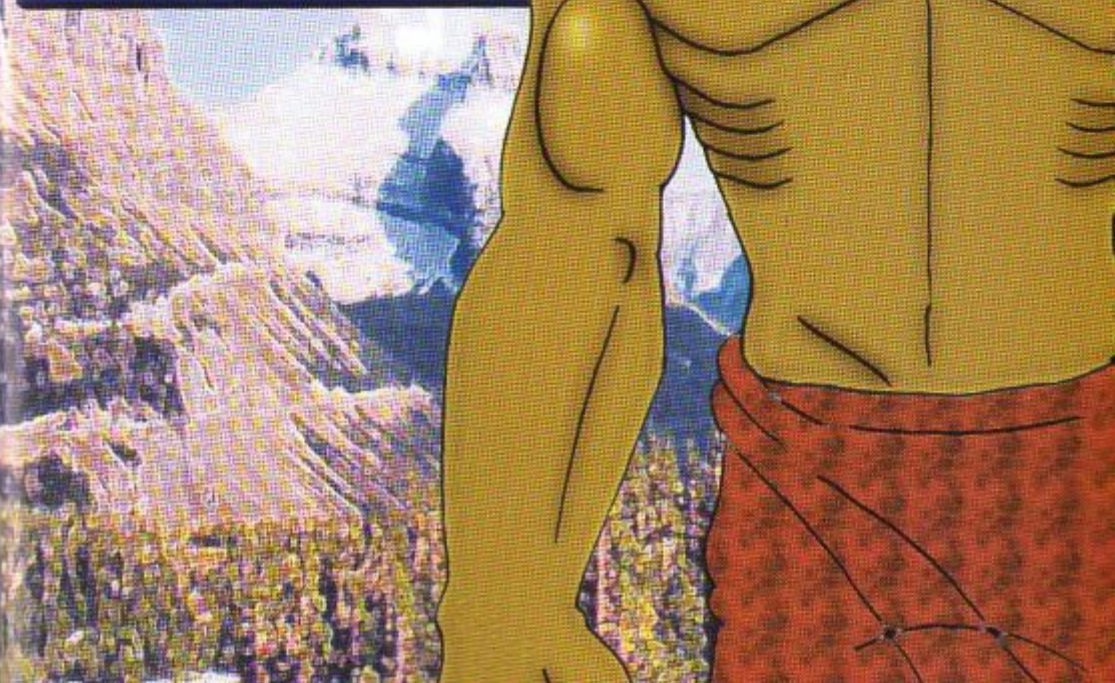
Ahmed Ali

Written by - Maulana Ahmed Ali

Illustrations & design by - Shiraz Zaman

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A very long time ago in the North of Arabia between Hijaz and Tabuk lived the people of Thamud. They were strong and tall like giants. The land they lived in was green and beautiful with gardens and fountains and flowers blooming. They carved mountains and made them into big, strong, beautiful houses to live in. They lived for hundreds of years. The people of Thamud were very strange as they did not believe in Allah although it was Allah who had given them all these luxuries and comforts.



Instead they would carve idols from stone with their very own hands and then bow down before them. Allah chose Salih from amongst them and made him a Prophet to call the people of Thamud to the worship of the true Allah. Day and night Prophet Salih called them towards Allah and informed them of the wrongs they were doing. But they laughed and joked and refused to believe him. He warned them of the punishment they would get for this but they still refused to believe.





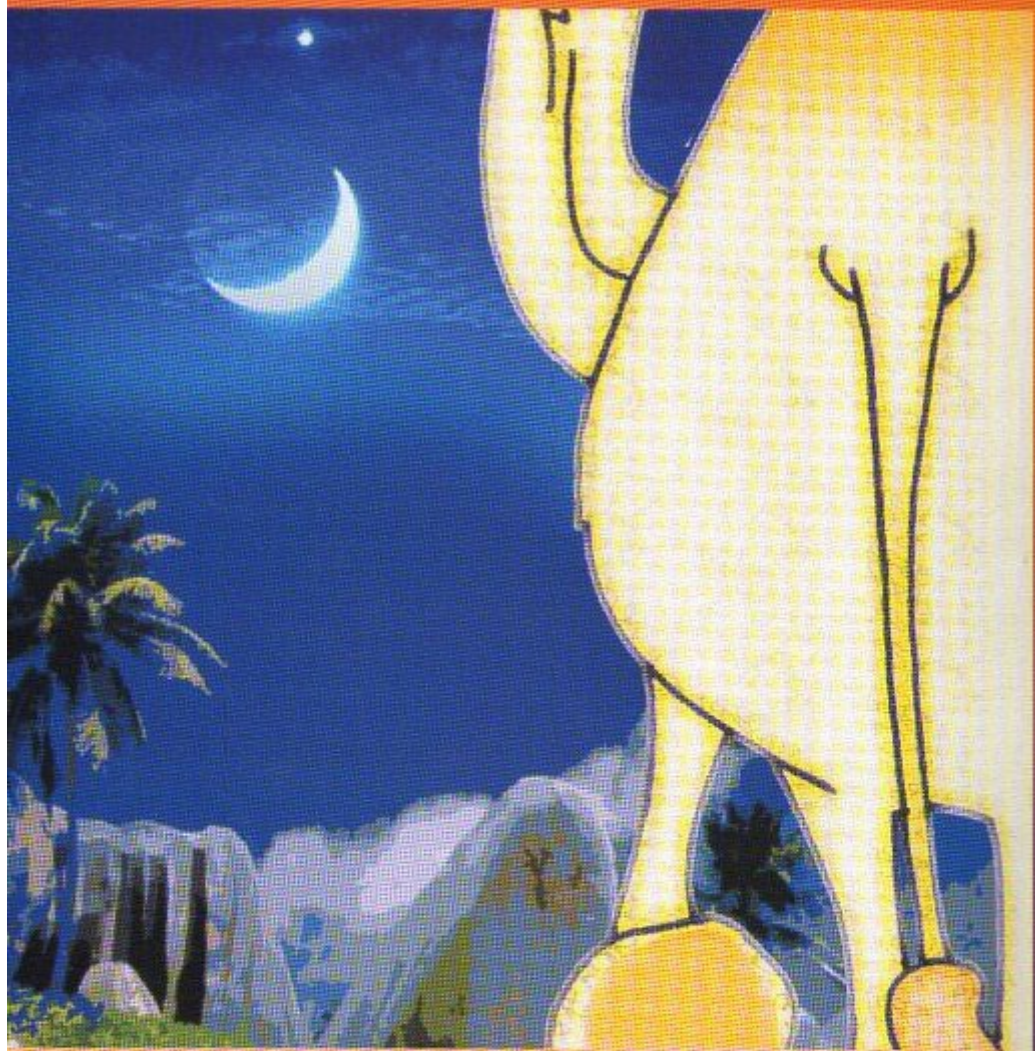
One day as he was inviting them they asked to see a miracle. "Which miracle would you like to see?" He asked. They said, "Come with us to our Eid. You can pray to your God and we will pray to our Gods. If your prayer is answered then we will believe in your Allah and if our prayer is answered then you will have to believe in our idols." Prophet Salih agreed and left with them to their Eid.

The People of Thamud asked their Gods that Salih's prayer should not be answered. The chief Jundah pointed towards a mountain and demanded that Salih take out a She-Camel from the mountain itself with certain features. It was a strange request indeed as camels do not come out from rock. Camels come out from camels just like sheep come out from sheep.





Prophet Ṣālih knew that Allāh had the power to do everything. When Allāh created the heaven, the earth, the moon and the stars, what would be difficult in taking out a She-Camel from rock? Prophet Ṣālih began to read Ṣalah and then prayed, "O Allāh show them the miracle they have asked for." All of a sudden there was a crack in the mountain and out came the She-Camel they asked for with all the features they requested. The people of Thamud were amazed to see the power of Allāh, but even then they refused to believe. They said the miracle was a spell and Prophet Ṣālih was a magician.

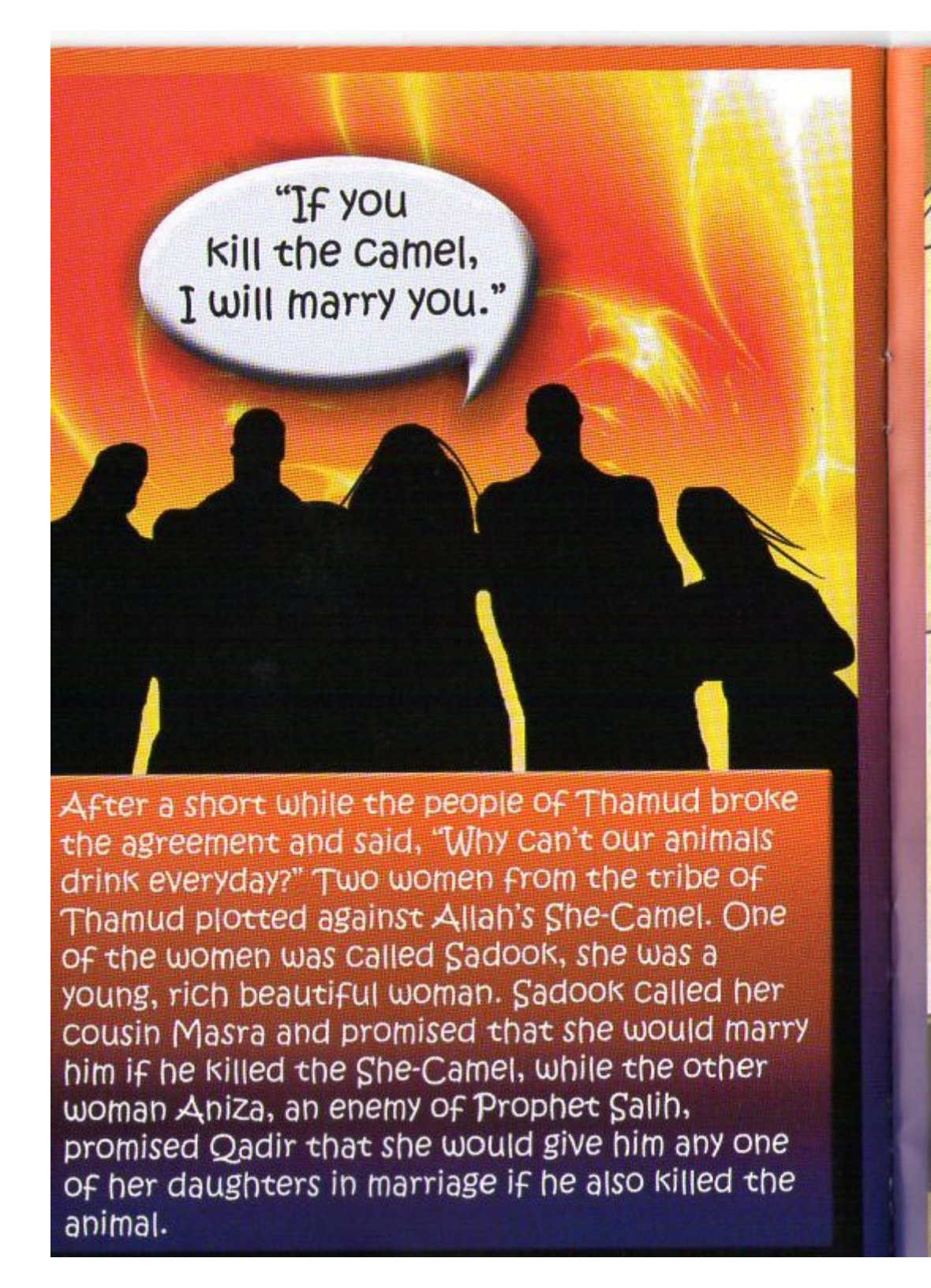


Prophet Salih warned them by saying, "Oh people, this is Allah's She-Camel and the sign which you asked for. Let it eat and drink in the land of Allah as it pleases and do not harm it, or Allah will punish you severely."

The She-Camel was very large and unusual in form. She loitered here and there and wherever she went to drink or graze grass in any jungle all the cattle were frightened and ran away.

Prophet Salih was a very fair man. So seeing this he decided that the animals take turns. One day the She-Camel would drink and the next day the rest of the animals would drink. This is the arrangement that was made between Allah's camel and their animals. The She-Camel would come on its turn with its little one and would drink all the water from the well and in return would give so much milk that it would suffice all the people of Thamud, and on the next day the rest of the animals of Thamud would come and drink from the well.

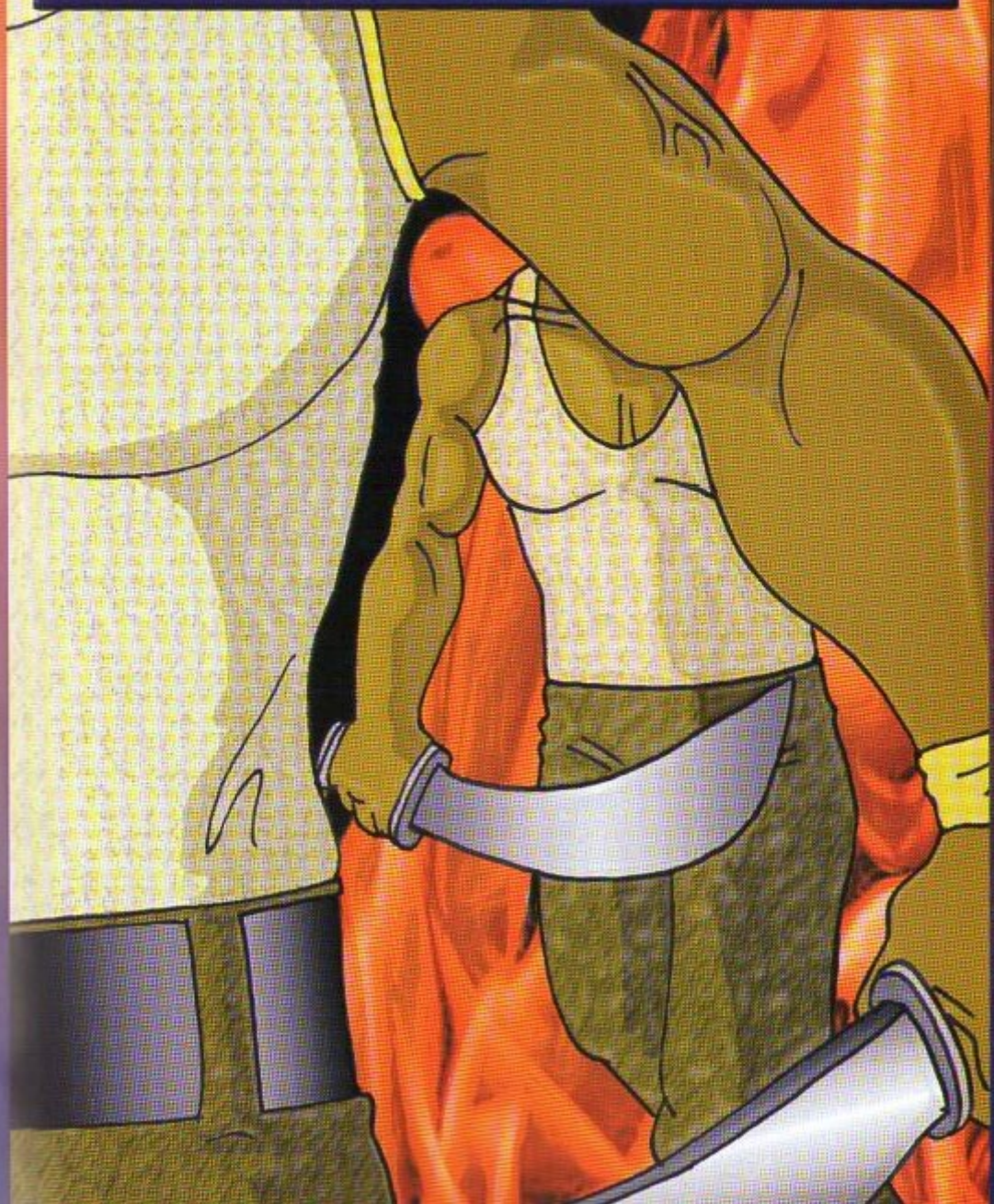




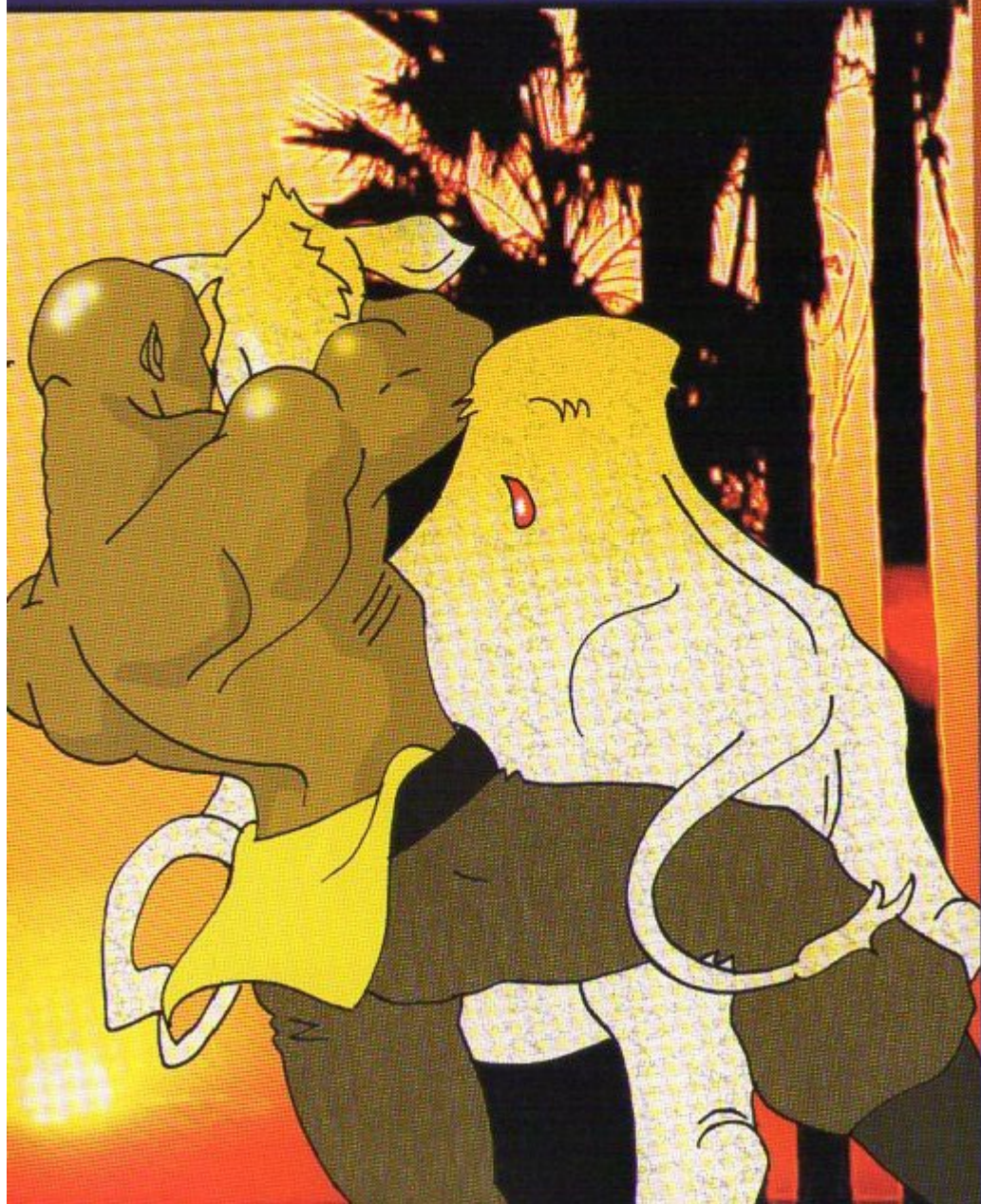
"If you
kill the camel,
I will marry you."

After a short while the people of Thamud broke the agreement and said, "Why can't our animals drink everyday?" Two women from the tribe of Thamud plotted against Allah's She-Camel. One of the women was called Sadook, she was a young, rich beautiful woman. Sadook called her cousin Masra and promised that she would marry him if he killed the She-Camel, while the other woman Aniza, an enemy of Prophet Salih, promised Qadir that she would give him any one of her daughters in marriage if he also killed the animal.

The two men fell into the trap, very anxious to receive their reward. They quickly gathered seven men to help them in their task.



One day they hid waiting for the She-Camel as it returned from the well with its little one. Masra shot an arrow while the others pounced with their swords and attacked it till it was no more.



The little one looking for a safe place to hide, ran crying up the mountain. When Prophet Salih came to know of the incident he was very saddened and said to them, "Enjoy yourselves for three days, thereafter you will receive the punishment of Allah."

The seven men then plotted to kill Prophet Salih and his family at night while they were all asleep. But Allah saved Prophet Salih and the seven men were crushed by a stone.





On Thursday the giants faces turned yellow just as Prophet Salih warned them. On Friday their faces turned red and on Saturday their faces turned black. On Sunday morning they waited for their punishment not knowing where it would come from. When the sun rose they were seized by an earthquake and a very huge cry from an angel. They all lay dead in the morning with their faces downwards. Their rock houses and lofty castles did not save them from the punishment of Allah. The disbelievers were destroyed while the believers were saved.

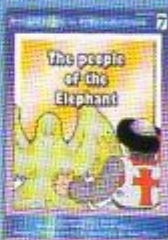
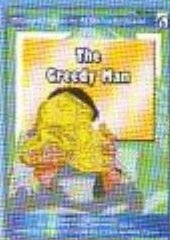
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